

For information on becoming a Respiratory Therapist, see [Sources of additional information](#) within this brochure.

For information on youth employment opportunities, contact a career counselor at your high school or employment counselor or job and information center coordinator at your local NH Employment Security Office.

Berlin (752-5500)

[151 Pleasant St., PO Box 159, 03570-0159](#)

Claremont (543-3111)

[404 Washington St., PO Box 180, 03743-0180](#)

Concord (228-4100)

[10 West St., PO Box 1140, 03302 - 1140](#)

Conway (447-5924)

[518 White Mountain Highway, 03818-4205](#)

Keene (352-1904)

[109 Key Rd., 03431-3926](#)

Laconia (524-3960)

[426 Union Ave., PO Box 760, 03246-2894](#)

Lebanon (448-6340)

[85 Mechanic St., Ste.4, 03766-1506](#)

Littleton (444-2971)

[646 Union St., Ste.100, 03561-5314](#)

Manchester (627-7841)

[300 Hanover St., 03104-4957](#)

Nashua (882-5177)

[6 Townsend St., 03060-3285](#)

Portsmouth (436-3702)

[2000 Lafayette Rd., 03801-5673](#)

Salem (893-9185)

[29 South Broadway, 03029-3026](#)

Somersworth (742-3600)

[243 Rt.108, 03878-1512](#)

SO, You want
to be a...



*Projected to be among
the top twenty fastest
growing occupations.
(NH Employment Projections,
2002-2012)*

Health Science Respiratory Therapist



New Hampshire

Here are
a few things
you should know.

You'll want to know a few things about this career.

Avg Hrly Wage:

\$21.94

Expected

Growth Rate*:

50%

Avg Annual

Openings:

27

Training/Educ
Needed:

Associate's
Degree

*License required to
practice within NH.
See Respiratory
Therapist Programs
available in NH at*

www.nhes.state.nh.us,

(NHetwork)

Basic Skills: Reading, listening, writing, speaking, math, science.

Job Skills: Sensitive to patient needs, attention-to-detail, ability to follow instructions, teamwork, mechanical ability, manual dexterity (OOH). (Also: Operation & control, reading comprehension, monitoring, active listening, critical thinking, problem identification, operation monitoring.)

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SO, You want
to be a...

Respiratory Therapist

Most people take breathing for granted. It's second nature, an involuntary reflex. But there are thousands of Americans who suffer from breathing problems such as asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, heart attack/accident victims, premature infants, people with cystic fibrosis, lung cancer, or AIDS. For them each breath is a major accomplishment. Respiratory Therapists evaluate, treat, and care for these people. (www.aarc.org)

TASKS

1. Sets up and operates devices, such as mechanical ventilators, therapeutic gas administration apparatus, environmental control systems, and aerosol generators.
2. Operates equipment to administer medicinal gases and aerosol drugs to patients following specified parameters of treatment.
3. Reads prescription, measures arterial blood gases, and reviews patient information.
4. Monitors patient's physiological responses to therapy, such as vital signs, arterial blood gases, and blood chemistry changes.
5. Performs pulmonary function and adjusts equipment to obtain optimum results to therapy.
6. Inspects and tests respiratory therapy equip to ensure it is functioning safely and efficiently.
7. Determines treatment requirements (ie: therapy type & duration, and medication & dosages).
8. Determines most suitable method of administering inhalants, precautions to be observed, and potential modifications needed, compatible with physician's orders.
9. Performs bronchopulmonary drainage and assists patient in performing breathing exercises.
10. Consults with physician in event of adverse reactions.
11. Maintains patient's chart that contains pertinent identification and therapy information.
12. Demonstrates respiratory care procedures to trainees and other health care personnel.
13. Orders repairs when necessary.

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Interests
(Holland Code):
IRS
(Investigative,
Realistic, Social)

Interest Area:
Medical and
Health Services

Working Condi-
tions: Comfort-
able, well lighted,
clean
environment. (Long
periods of standing/
walking. Can be
stressful for some.)

Avg Work Week:
35/40hrs (Some
may work nights and
weekends.)

Sources of additional

info: NH Employment Security
(Contact office nearest you or go
online to www.nhes.state.nh.us).

American Association for Respira-
tory Care, 11030 Ables Ln., Dallas,
TX (www.aarc.org).

Office of Allied Health Professionals,
Board of Regulation and Medicine,
2 Industrial Park Drive, Concord NH
03301 (www.state.nh.us/medicine).

NHCRN
New Hampshire Career Resource Network
Employment SECURITY Rick Ricker (603) 229-4489 ELM4B
www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nhcrn/index.htm